

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7835

INFO USIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY)

SUBJ: ADDRESS BY DR. HENRY KISSINGER, SECRETARY OF STATE,  
TO THE STAFF OF THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY, OTTAWA,  
OCT 15, 1975

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF ADDRESS TO STAFF OF U.S.  
EMBASSY, OTTAWA:

AMBASSADOR PORTER: "I KNOW I NEED NOT MAKE AN INTRODUCTION  
HERE THIS AFTERNOON. WE ARE VERY HONOURED BY THE  
PRESENCE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, DR. KISSINGER.

THE SECRETARY: "THANK YOU, BILL. BILL AND I HAVE BEEN  
ASSOCIATES SINCE 1965 WHEN I FIRST RAN INTO HIM IN  
SAIGON AND HE TRIED TO SAVE ME FROM THE WRATH OF  
PRESIDENT JOHNSON WHO THOUGHT THAT I HAD TALKED TOO  
FREELY TO THE PRESS, SOMETHING WHICH HAS CONTINUED.

"I AM GLAD TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SEE YOU BECAUSE,  
UNFORTUNATELY, I DON'T GET ENOUGH OF AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK  
TO FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS ABROAD.

"YOU ARE SERVING AT A TIME WHEN WE ARE TRYING TO ADAPT  
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OUR FOREIGN POLICY TO THE NEW CONDITIONS OF THE PERIOD

IN WHICH OUR RESOURCES ARE NO LONGER INFINITE IN RELATION TO THE CHALLENGES BEFORE US, SO THAT WE HAVE TO BE MORE SELECTIVE; TO A PERIOD IN WHICH THE NECESSITY OF GAINING AND MAINTAINING PUBLIC SUPPORT OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME HAS BEEN BROUGHT HOME TO US BY A SERIES OF DOMESTIC TRAGEDIES, INCLUDING ALSO THE WAR IN VIETNAM.

"SO THAT WE MUST NOW FIND A NATIONAL CONSENSUS FOR A FOREIGN POLICY THAT IS MORE DISCRIMINATING, THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT OUR RESOURCES, OUR VALUES, AND OUR DOMESTIC SUPPORT. IN THIS, THE ROLE OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE, AND THOSE OF YOU WHO SERVE ABROAD, IS PARTICULARLY CRUCIAL. THE PRINCIPAL GUARANTEE FOR CONTINUITY WE HAVE IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY IS IN A DEDICATED, PROFESSIONAL, NON-POLITICAL FOREIGN SERVICE.

"IT IS TO THIS GROUP THAT EVERY NEW SECRETARY OF STATE HAS TO TURN. IT IS TO THIS GROUP THAT EVERY NEW PRESIDENT HAS TO TURN, AND IT IS ALSO ON THIS GROUP THAT ANY INCUMBENT MUST RELY FOR ANALYSES AND FOR PROFESSIONAL EXECUTION. THIS IS WHY I FEEL SO VERY STRONGLY THAT THE PROFESSIONALISM AND THE NON-POLITICAL NATURE OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE MUST BE PROTECTED; AND IF YOU FIND ME OCCASIONALLY EMBROILED ON THIS ISSUE WITH VARIOUS CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES, YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THAT IT IS MY PROFOUND CONVICTION THAT THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES CAN ONLY BE CONDUCTED ON A NON-PARTISAN BASIS AND ON A LONG TERM BASIS, AND THAT, THEREFORE, THE PROFESSIONAL FOREIGN SERVICE MUST BE PROTECTED FROM INQUIRY INTO THE RECOMMENDATIONS THEY MAKE TO THOSE WHO HAVE THE ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY

"AT ANY RATE, I WANT YOU ALL TO KNOW THAT I APPRECIATE WHAT YOU ARE DOING AND SO DO MY ASSOCIATES. WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR REPORTS AND FOR YOUR ANALYSES, BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT WE HAVE ULTIMATELY TO DEPEND ON.

"I WANT TO THANK ALSO THOSE CANADIANS WHO ARE HERE, WHO ARE WORKING WITH THE EMBASSY, AND ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR  
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DEDICATED SERVICE, AND I KNOW THAT WHEN I SHOW UP HERE FOR LESS THAN 24 HOURS, AND WHEN EVERYTHING SEEMS TO RUN SO EFFORTLESSLY, SOMEBODY HAS BEEN WORKING AWFULLY HARD. I APPRECIATE IT." PORTER

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